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Governor Minner Presents Governor's Team Excellence <u>Award</u>

Wilmington – Governor Ruth Ann Minner Monday presented the first Governor's Team Excellence Award to the Community Services Re-Engineering Team of the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services, Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF).

"We established this award to recognize the significant contributions state employees make to the efficiency of state government as they serve our citizens every day," Gov. Minner said. "Consistent with my priority for a well managed state government, I encourage employees and agencies to work together to achieve outstanding results, and I'm pleased to recognize these outstanding teams."

The Governor's Team Excellence Award is designed to encourage teamwork by recognizing teams that excel in leadership abilities and team operation, use best practices and superior customer service, and produce tangible results. Twenty-six teams were nominated for the award and five teams were selected as finalists.

The ten-member Community Services Re-Engineering Team was chosen for its efforts to improve the youth probation system. The team proposed a model that resulted in more youth participating in activities, a higher rate of compliance with conditions of probation, fewer youth rejoining the system after their release and increased employee satisfaction.

"Our staff has made teamwork a priority in order to get the best results for the kids in our care," says Cari DeSantis, cabinet secretary for the Children's Department. "We submitted four nominations for this award and are honored to have our Families and Communities Together (F.A.C.T.) project team selected as a finalist, along with our Community Services Re-Engineering team receiving the award."

The other five finalists were: the Bureau of Tax Collections Process Improvement Team, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Team, the Delaware Portal Team and the E-Z Pass Operations Team.